

Rumor: *Smash Bros.* roster leaks; you can finally shoot the *Duck Hunt* dog

Convincing video footage shows Bowser Jr., *Xenoblade* protagonist as new fighters.

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The next entries in the *Super Smash Bros.* fighting franchise, a 3DS/Wii U duo with separate (and [partly unknown](#)) release dates, has seen its roster of fan-favorite characters expand in drips of one or two character announcements at a time for years now. That promotional slow-drip may have finally run out, however, thanks to a mix of questionable screenshots and convincing video footage that surfaced on [enthusiast forum NeoGAF](#) in recent days.

[The videos, which were uploaded \[and promptly deleted by way of Nintendo copyright claim\] on Monday](#) and focused on the 3DS edition of the next *Smash Bros.*, contained appearances from previously unannounced characters Bowser Jr.—piloting the flying clown-face pod that first appeared in *Super Mario World*—and Shulk, the spiky-haired, JRPG-cliche protagonist from the Nintendo-published *Xenoblade Chronicles*. These videos appeared to confirm leaked information that surfaced as early as last Wednesday, including a full roster screenshot that contained, among other characters, the dog from NES classic *Duck Hunt*. If true, this would be the first time the annoying, laughing pooch would be directly controllable in a Nintendo game, though you could

actually shoot the mongrel in his grinning face if you tracked down a [*Vs. Duck Hunt* arcade machine](#).

That supposed full-character roster screenshot also included returning Smash faves like *Earthbound* protagonist Ness, classic Nintendo mascot R.O.B., and *Star Fox* sidekick Falco. While we're hesitant to confirm that screenshot as fully authentic without more information, the gameplay videos compare very closely to the gameplay we tried out at this year's Electronic Entertainment Expo. If they're fakes, they're good ones.